

a weeklong event attended by hundreds of thousands from across the United States and, indeed, around the globe.

Each year more and more riders are using their motorcycles to go to the store, go to work, or just go for a ride.

This growing popularity is good for our Nation. Motorcyclists ease road congestion, reduce overall fuel consumption, and decrease wear and tear on our Nation's infrastructure.

As a cochairman of the Congressional Motorcycle Caucus, I offer my best wishes to the attendees of this year's event. Here is to good weather and safe travels while celebrating the freedom to ride.

BANGLADESH

(Ms. GABBARD asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss and raise the dire situation of religious minorities in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh is a country in turmoil. There are many concerns about the stability of the country, particularly since flawed elections were held last year and the political violence that has ensued.

I am particularly concerned over issues of religious freedom and, specifically, attacks against the minority Hindus, Christians, Buddhists, and others in Bangladesh.

All too often perpetrators of crimes against minorities go unpunished. It is up to the Government of Bangladesh to take action to stop those who incite and commit violence and to protect the rights of these minorities.

I am introducing a resolution today calling on the Government of Bangladesh to protect human rights of all its citizens, particularly its vulnerable minorities, strengthen democratic institutions and rule of law, and prevent the growth of extremist groups.

I ask my colleagues to support this resolution to help protect the religious freedoms of all people in Bangladesh.

MILITARY CHAPLAINS

(Mr. WESTERMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, as did my colleague, the gentleman from South Carolina, to note that today marks the 240th birthday of the military Chaplain Corps, which was originally founded by the Continental Congress.

I stand today to honor the men and women who serve the spiritual needs of those in uniform. The military chaplains who serve and have served bravely go with their fellow soldiers into combat theaters not to fight, but to fill the role of pastor, counselor, and listener for our armed services.

Military chaplains are held in especially high regard within my own of-

fice, with Arkansas National Guard Captain David Wittee serving as an Army chaplain in addition to serving as my military affairs liaison and a field representative in the Fourth District of Arkansas.

I want to thank Captain Wittee and all military chaplains, both current and past, for their service to their fellow soldiers and for their service to our Nation.

RESTORE THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT

(Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, this Confederate flag, which is a symbol of systemic oppression and racial subjugation, was recently lowered in the State of South Carolina.

But this same flag, which symbolizes so many inequities in our country, is still flying high in a figurative sense over our country.

When the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the heart of the Voting Rights Act, it signaled that African American voting rights would no longer be protected.

Pretending that the legacy of poll taxes, literacy tests, and blatant discrimination was no longer taking place, the Supreme Court symbolically raised this flag when it gutted the Voting Rights Act.

Now that this flag has come down from the halls of South Carolina, it is time that we lower this flag from its perch over the voting rights of African Americans by passing the legislation in the U.S. Congress to restore the Voting Rights Act.

MORE SECRETS

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the IRS targeted, intimidated, and harassed many Americans because of their political philosophy. The people are still waiting for answers about why their government is engaged in this Soviet-style behavior.

First, 2 years of emails were lost. Now we learn that the IRS purposely used an internal messaging system—an office communication server—on the sly. They opted not to archive these messages and kept them secret from the eyes of the citizens and Congress. In one email Lois Lerner apparently was told the messaging system was not archived. Her response? “Perfect.”

So we will never know what was in those messages that were intentionally scrubbed.

There is a pattern here.

The Secretary of State was conducting official business on her own untraceable secret email server, and the taxman used its own “go dark sys-

tem” to evade transparency. It is just another day with the “most transparent administration in history.”

Mr. Speaker, the public has a right to know and get answers to all these scandals. After years of stonewalling, it is painfully obvious that this administration will not investigate this administration.

And that is just the way it is.

MEDICARE AND MEDICAID

(Ms. MATSUI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of Medicare and Medicaid.

When President Lyndon B. Johnson signed Medicare and Medicaid into law, he proclaimed that:

“No longer will older Americans be denied the healing miracle of modern medicine. No longer will illness crush and destroy the savings that they have so carefully put away over a lifetime so that they might enjoy dignity in their later years. No longer will young families see their own incomes and their own hopes eaten away simply because they are carrying out their deep moral obligations to their parents.”

We need to continue to keep these promises by protecting and expanding Medicare and Medicaid. Together, these two programs provide health coverage for our Nation's seniors, people with disabilities, and moms and families. We must ensure that these programs are here for now and for future generations.

EXECUTIVE REGULATORY OVERREACH

(Mr. ALLEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, before my time in Congress, if someone had told me that I would spend 90 percent of my time fighting executive regulatory overreach, nobody would have believed me, but it is the truth.

In the past 7 months, I have found out how out of control the overreach of this administration truly is. With rules such as the Waters of the United States and the Clean Power Plan from EPA, this administration continues to trample on the rights of our citizens and States while hurting our economy along the way.

That is why I was pleased to cosponsor and vote for the REINS Act. This important legislation requires Congress to have 70 legislative days to review any rules with an economic impact over \$100 million and ensures Congress has oversight before any major rule goes to the President for a signature.

By allowing Congress to review these rules, we can restore accountability and the power of legislating to the legislative branch.